

Campaign Viewpoints ...

St. Louis Paper Says GOP Campaign Reached 'Low Point' on Hiss Charge

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Journal-Times is supporting the candidacy of Dwight D. Eisenhower for president of the United States. However, in order to give our readers a view of other opinions on the presidential campaign, we will print in this space, several times a week between now and election day, editorials from other newspapers and magazines. We will alternate those articles, which may sometimes be condensed to conserve space but not to alter their meaning, between those who favor Eisenhower, and those who favor Adlai Stevenson.)

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

The Eisenhower-Nixon campaign sank to its lowest point thus far with the attempt of the GOP vice presidential nominee to discredit Gov. Stevenson for his deposition in the Alger Hiss case of 1949-50.

Following the pattern of Clare Boothe Luce, Gen. Eisenhower's running mate said he did not question Gov. Stevenson's "loyalty" because of his sworn testimony as to Hiss' reputation. What he did question, Nixon said, was Gov. Stevenson's "judgment" in making the affidavit.

Richard Nixon is a lawyer. He knows what it is for a federal court to ask for a deposition as to an accused person's character. He knows that it is the duty of any and every citizen—and particularly the duty of a lawyer as an officer of the court—to answer honestly the questions asked on the authority of the court.

Lawyer Nixon knows that Adlai E. Stevenson, who is also a member of the bar, did that and only that in the Hiss case. He knows that the Stevenson deposition dealt only with Hiss' reputation in 1933 and 1945.

Yet Senator Nixon sought to convince his radio and television audience that Gov. Stevenson should have done something else. He made it pretty plain, without saying so, that he would not have answered as Gov. Stevenson did if the court order had come to him. Richard Nixon, even though he had known Hiss' reputation to be good in the AAA and State Department.

What Senator Nixon did not say tells far more than what he did say.

For Senator Nixon failed to say that John Foster Dulles, Gen. Eisenhower's foreign policy adviser, was close to Alger Hiss for years, and that Dulles was largely responsible in obtaining for Hiss the \$20,000-a-year post as presi-

dent of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Senator Nixon failed to say that Dulles discussed the Communist charges with Hiss before Hiss was hired.

Senator Nixon failed to say that Dulles was an important witness in the Hiss trial.

Senator Nixon failed to give the names of any of the military leaders and prominent business men, including conservative Republicans, who testified more strongly as to Hiss' reputation than did Gov. Stevenson.

Senator Nixon failed to say that when Hiss, under fire, submitted his resignation as Carnegie Endowment head in December 1948, the Board of Trustees, of which Gen. Eisenhower was a member, tabled the resignation presumably as a display of confidence in Hiss.

Senator Nixon failed to say that Gen. Eisenhower had a chance to approve the resignation and that he did not do so.

Gen. Eisenhower, John Foster Dulles, David Rockefeller, John W. Davis and the others who were on the Carnegie board were not willing dupes. They believed and acted in accordance with the historic American principle that a man is innocent until proved guilty. So they suspended judgment until the outcome of the trial.

If they are not to be condemned then neither is Gov. Stevenson to be smeared—even by a politician so irresponsible as Richard Nixon, who, incidentally, still hides his tax returns.

Gen. Eisenhower now has two choices in the Hiss case. The first is the unpleasant one of repudiating his running mate. The second is the basically dishonest one of keeping silent.

Will he have the moral stamina of his former SHAEF chief of staff, Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, now head of the Central Intelligence Agency?

Will Gen. Eisenhower be as frank about the Hiss case as Gen. Smith was above board when he, Gen. Smith, testifying before a congressional committee a few hours prior to the Nixon broadcast, said that "the American people will have little to worry about" if the next president, Eisenhower or Stevenson, is as "co-operative" as President Truman in "ferreting out subversives"?

Everyone who knows these facts will be watching to see whether the general himself helps make the facts clear to the voters in order to correct the hypocritical broadcast of his running mate.

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